Announcing the Combined Arms Center Commanding General's 2007 "Information Operations" Writing Competition

The Combined Arms Center (CAC), Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, is pleased to announce the Second Annual Commanding General's "Information Operations" Writing Competition.

Anyone conducting research on issues related to Information Operations (IO) is invited to submit papers for consideration. CAC will announce the competition results during the first week of December.

The 2007 competition is now open.

Who is eligible to enter?

Anyone conducting research on issues related to IO.

How do I enter?

- Submit an unclassified, original research paper on any topic examining issues related to IO by 31 October. Papers generally should not exceed 5,000 words, though well-developed manuscripts of extraordinary merit that exceed this limit will be considered.

- Previously published papers, or papers pending consideration elsewhere for publication, are ineligible with one exception: IO-related articles published in *Military Review* by 31 October each year or received by *Military Review* for publication consideration by 31 October each year will be automatically entered in this competition.

- Papers submitted to other competitions still pending announced decisions are also ineligible.

What do winning writers receive?

First Place: Award of $1,000; a certificate of recognition signed by the Commanding General, U.S. Army Combined Arms Center; and, publication as a featured essay in *Military Review*, the U.S. Army's Professional Journal.

Second Place: Award of $500; a certificate of recognition signed by the Commanding General, U.S. Army Combined Arms Center; and, special consideration for publication in *Military Review*.

<u>Third Place</u>: Award of $250; a certificate of recognition signed by the Commanding General, U.S. Army Combined Arms Center; and, special consideration for publication in *Military Review.*

<u>Fourth Place</u>: Award of $250; a certificate of recognition signed by the Commanding General, U.S. Army Combined Arms Center; and, special consideration for publication in *Military Review.*

NOTE: Government employees whose papers are selected for award are not eligible to receive the cash portion of the writing awards for papers that are authored during the course of their government employment. Similarly contractors, providing IO-related services to the U.S. Government are encouraged to submit papers for consideration but are not eligible to receive the cash portion of the writing awards for papers that are authored as part of their required contract services. Examples:
   o An individual in the USAIOP who writes a concept, white, or other paper for the IO Proponent may use that work for this competition but <u>is not eligible</u> to receive a cash award.
   o An FA30 Officer who has developed an IO tool for his unit may use that work for this competition but <u>is not eligible</u> to receive a cash award.
   o An individual in the private sector who performs work under contract to the U.S. Government may use that work for this competition but <u>is not eligible</u> to receive a cash award.

How do you submit a paper? Complete the enrollment form at Enclosure 1 and submit it together with the proposed manuscript via e-mail or in hard copy with a CD to *U.S. Army Information Operations Proponent (USAIOP)* by 31 October 2007. Email:paul.tiberi@us.army.mil. Mail: US Army Information Operations Proponent (USAIOP), ATTN: IO Writing Contest, 415 Sherman Avenue, Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027.

How will the papers be evaluated and judged? *USAIOP* will establish a panel to evaluate entries. The panel will be composed of members of the U.S. Army's Combined Arms Center staff and faculty, as well as invited readers with expertise in IO. General criteria to be used for evaluating papers are attached at Encl 2.

Need a topic? See Encl 3 for some suggestions.

Questions? Mr. Paul Tiberi, Leader Development, Education, and Training Division, USAIOP, will answer any questions you might have. He can be reached by telephone at (913) 684-4475 or DSN 552-4475; or via email at paul.tiberi@us.army.mil.

ENCLOSURE 1 (Enrollment Form)

MEMORANDUM FOR Chair, IO Writing Competition Panel

SUBJECT: The 2007 Combined Arms Center Commanding General's Information Operations Writing Competition

1. Attached is my research paper submission for the subject competition.

2. The subject of my paper is_____.

3. I affirm that the research paper is my original work. I further affirm that no part of it has been plagiarized from other sources; that all references to other work have been properly and fully attributed; that it has not been previously published (with the authorized exception that it may have been published in *Military Review* by 31 October 2007; that it is not now being considered elsewhere for publication (with the authorized exception of *Military Review)*; and, that it is not currently pending consideration as an entry in any other competition.

4. This paper _____ (is/is not) part of work for which the U.S. Government has or will remunerate me. (NOTE: Refer to the competition rules.)

5. I understand that if my paper is selected as a winner, the Combined Arms Center may reproduce it for instructional purposes, and *Military Review* will have first right of publication without copyright restrictions.

Signature _____

Printed name _____

Title/Organization _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

ENCLOSURE 2 (Criteria for Judging)

Evaluation is unavoidably a subjective process; however, our panelists will use the questions below to help them evaluate essays more objectively.

- Does the essay offer well-thought-out and well-researched opinions about Information Operations issues?

- Does the essay contribute anything new to the existing body of knowledge in Information Operations?

- If the essay is not a product of original research, is it an effective synthesis of existing research, and has it yielded significant insight?

- Does the essay offer plausible solutions to or recommendations about a problem or issue?

- If the manuscript is a historical essay, do the issues associated with the historical events described and evaluated have any direct relevance to current Information Operations?

- Does the author of the essay know what he (or she) is talking about? Does the essay fairly represent the background facts and provide a credible examination of the issue?

- Does the essay show evidence of significant research using accepted academic standards, or does it rely significantly on spurious resources?

- Is research backed up by careful footnoting or endnotes?

- Is the essay well written? Does it move logically from a clear thesis through a well-developed argument using supporting evidence to yield persuasive conclusions?

- Is the essay written in an accessible style, or does it give the impression that it has been written to impress rather than to inform and persuade?

- Does the essay use excessive acronyms or jargon?

Enclosure 3 (Possible Topics)

1. Information Operations in Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF): What worked? What didn't work? – Vignettes in Current Theaters of Operation

2. Information Operations in Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF): What worked? What didn't work? – Vignettes in Current Theaters of Operation

3. Case Studies in Information Operations: What worked? What didn't work? What does it mean?

4. Information Operations in Joint, Interagency, and Multinational Operations: How do you make it work really?

5. Information Operations: A current fad or something more?

6. Commanders and IO: Are leaders up to the challenge?

7. Ethical challenges in Information Operations.

8. The relationship between IO and Battle Command.

9. The relationship between IO and Strategic Communication.

10. The relationship between Psychological Operations (PSYOP) and Information Operations.

11. The relationship between Military Deception (MILDEC) and Information Operations.

12. The relationship between Electronic Warfare (EW) and IO.

13. The relationship between Operations Security (OPSEC) and IO.

14. The relationship between Computer Network Operations (CNO) and IO.

15. The relationship between Civil Affairs (CA) and IO.

16. The relationship between Public Affairs (PA) and IO.

17. The relationship of cultural aptitude and IO.

18. Integrating IO into the Unit Planning, Preparation, Execution and Assessment Cycle: How do you do it really?

19. Limits of IO.

20. Preparing the indigenous population for the consequences of a conflict.

21. IO Organization, Capability, and Capacity: Are we serious or only sincere?

22. IO in counterinsurgencies.